



Round Table II

Gender Transformative Approach to Ending Poverty, Hunger and Undernutrition

The Agenda 2030 calls for a stronger commitment to realization of gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), gender approaches must be transformative and address the structural impediments to gender equality. This is an essential element for attaining food security and nutrition for all.

Some existing approaches often focus on identifying and closing the gender gaps without necessarily addressing the underlying structural causes of gender inequality. There is a need to change the approach to accelerate progress. To achieve lasting/durable sustainable outcomes, where possible, an integrated approach is needed that effectively combines political and policy dialogue, gender mainstreaming, and gender-specific actions.

Central elements of this transformative approach are altering the way that women and girls are perceived in society, and changing the legal and institutional frameworks in ways that are conducive to the full realization of women's social, economic and political rights. The way forward would include supporting and promoting girls' and women's equal participation and voice at all levels of society. This would ensure that girls and women, boys and men, all fully participate in the decision making and implementation processes that affect their lives.

This Round Table aims at exploring how a gender transformative approach can be further integrated into sustainable agriculture, rural development, and food and nutrition security interventions. Attention will be given to promoting an enabling environment for transforming gender relations and for the fulfilment of women's and girls' rights in rural areas in order to promote gender equality as an essential means for achieving food and nutrition security related goals.

In particular, the following questions will be discussed:

- How to strengthen rural women's participation, voice, and leadership within their households, communities and at the national level, so they can effectively participate in the decision making and implementation processes and fully and equally contribute to shaping laws, policies and programmes for food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture and rural development? What lessons can be learnt from supporting rural women as 'agents of change' rather than 'recipients of aid'?
- How to support rural women's organizations, networks and movements for them to be more equitable, representative and inclusive? How can they be enabled to fully participate in policy processes and in sustainable rural development?



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